



## Other Accomplishments

- Landowners/Operators helped: 1,148
- Farm Conservation Plans developed: 9
- Dairy Nutrient Management Plans completed/updated: 12
- Total Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed: 23
- Acres Improved by BMPs: 2,291
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
  - Plans completed: 33
  - Stream feet planted: 44,929
  - Stream feet fenced: 14,256
  - Native plants installed: 47,150
  - Acres planted: 113.4
  - Projects maintained: 98
  - Acres maintained: 474
- Other riparian restoration projects implemented: 16
  - Stream feet planted: 36,960
  - Acres Enhanced: 22
  - Native plants installed: 30,858



Lake Terrell Dam was replaced with a reinforced concrete weir placed into the existing spillway structure. The stream channel was elevated to the weir level. Migrating salmon can now access the lake and upstream habitat. (post-construction)

## 2012 Feature Accomplishments

### Terrell Creek Dam Project-

*Resource Challenge* – Terrell Creek is a dam regulated watershed located in northwest Whatcom County that historically produced at least four species of salmon and trout (Coho, Chum, Steelhead, Cutthroat). Terrell Creek is unique because it has largely intact riparian areas, good clean spawning gravels and large areas of wetlands



Lake Terrell Dam (before)

nourishing the upper watershed. However salmon in Terrell Creek have been adversely affected by a 7' high dam constructed in the 1950s that not only blocks fish passage but also impounds water from surrounding wetlands that would otherwise provide summer flow in the stream. Lake Terrell Dam was constructed to enlarge a vast wetland complex to increase sport fishing and waterfowl hunting. Despite the challenges, populations of Coho Salmon remain in the stream. Chum Salmon have been released for the last few years.

**Project Summary and Results** – After garnering feedback and approval from stakeholders, the Whatcom Conservation District received funding to resolve impacts on Terrell Creek. The Lake Terrell Dam was replaced with a reinforced concrete weir placed into the existing spillway structure. The top of the weir consists of shallow sloping shoulders that drop to a central low-flow triangular weir. The elevation of the central low-flow weir crest is lower than the original dam resulting in a minimum dry season flow of 1.1 cubic feet per second. The weir design will “meter” out water slowly through the dry summer months ensuring that 27,350 linear feet of Terrell Creek below the dam contains minimum flows needed to support juvenile salmon.

Following installation of the weir, the stream channel below was elevated to the weir level by adding 2,500 tons of compacted fill and 500 tons of spawning gravels. Pools or riffles were created and large woody debris was placed in the channel. Migrating salmon can now swim over the dam without any impairment and have access to 17,750 linear feet of upstream habitat including 7,400 linear feet of stream with quality spawning gravels and good riparian cover. Upstream riparian areas were also restored by planting 5.6 acres along 4,340 linear feet of stream bank with native tree and shrub buffers.

*Key Project Partners* – National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, British Petroleum, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Environmental Protection Agency

## Contact Information

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## More Work To Do

### Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 29 CREP participants approved for installation in spring 2013
- Livestock*
  - Continue technical assistance to 120 dairies and hundreds of small farms.



As a change from our usual dairy farm, technical services were provided to this small dromedary and Bactrian camel farm.